



BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the years

1939

and

1940

BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEARS
1939 and 1940.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Buckingham acting
by the Town Council as the Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Reports
of the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough for the
years 1939 and 1940. The report has been drawn up in
accordance with Circular 2067 of the Ministry of Health.
During part of this period I acted as your Medical Officer
of Health, having replaced Dr. A.M. Critchley who had joined
the army at the outbreak of war.

As I only arrived in England from abroad late
in September 1939 and took up my duties at the end of
October I was unfortunately unable to obtain Dr. Critchley's
assistance in picking up the threads of my work. However, Mr G.P.
Chilvers your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, came to my
aid and my thanks are due to him for the ready and valuable
help which he has constantly given me.

At the end of 1939 evacuation problems were still
to the fore. One difficulty I met was in securing the
necessary buildings for the treatment of sick evacuee
children. As there was already a shortage of houses and the
few that were available were lost through official delay.
/has been - In securing them with The result that there is no hostel in
the Borough for the reception of children who are sick or
who temporarily require a home.

Accommodation for refugees was provided in the old
Casual Ward, this has proved a great boon and has at times
saved a difficult situation. Thanks are due to your Mayor
and the ladies of the Womens Voluntary Service for carrying
out the task of welcoming, feeding and accomodating these
unfortunate visitors.

In the months of August, September and October 1940
an epidemic of measles occurred but fortunately the weather
was mild and all the cases did well.

The large increase in the Borough's population
from 3286 in 1938 to about 4500 in 1939 and 5,000 in 1940
has thrown a heavy strain on all the services but owing to
the good work of all concerned the Borough has been well
served with water and sanitation.

It was contemplated by those qualified to know
that in the winter of 1940 & 41 epidemics of severe illnesses
might be expected throughout the United Kingdom but fortun-
ately these expectations were not realised and the health
of the Borough, apart from the measles epidemic has been
good and quite up to pre-war standards. A campaign of
diphtheria immunisation was begun in the latter part of 1940.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking
the members of the Council for the help they have given me;
the Mayor's wide experience has always been at my service
/for

for which I am very grateful. The County Medical Officer and his staff have ever been ready to advise me and co-operate in any scheme for the promotion of health in the Borough. I am also grateful to my medical colleagues in the Borough for their co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R.Y. STONES.

A. VITAL STATISTICS.	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>
Area	5723 a.	5723 a.
Registrar Generals estimate of population	3473	
Number of inhabited houses	1118	1118
Rateable Value	£21767	£21951
Sum represented by a penny rate	£85	£88
Rates	12/11	13/2
Live Births (Legitimate)	M 24	F 36
(Illegitimate)	-	1
Still Births (Legitimate)	-	1
(Illegitimate)	-	-
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age		
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officials. MAYOR: COUNCILLOR T. H. SMITH.

Public Health Committee:

Chairman - Alderman A. E. Busby.

Aldermen B. L. Ackerman, E. Holton, J. M. Tilley.
Councillors the Rt. Hon. Lord Addington, C. W. Cantell, J. G. Denny,
E. T. Hawes, Hon. F.S. Hubbard, W. O. Parker, W. S. Pringle,
O. Rodwell, P. J. Small, W. H. Thomas, S. G. Williams.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:

Temporary Medical Officer of Health.

R. Y. Stones, O.B.E., M.C., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

in place of

A. Michael Critchley, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

The M. O. H. is also M. O. H. for Bletchley
U. D. C. and Assistant County Medical Officer, Bucks.

Sanitary Inspector.

George Belson Chilvers, F.I.S.E., M. Inst. M. & Cty Eng.,
Crt. Royal Sanitary Institute.

2. Laboratory Facilities.

The Council has arranged with the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service of the School of Pathology Oxford to perform its pathological investigations. An economy has thereby been effected and a fuller service been acquired.

3. Ambulance Facilities remain as heretofore.

4. Nursing in the Home remains as heretofore.

5. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.- The Welfare Centre has been continued at the Oddfellows' Hall and has carried on its functions satisfactorily. The national pool milk has been available for supply to mothers but there seems to have been no shortage of fresh or certain brands of tinned milk so the demand for pool milk has not arisen.

Other Clinics under this head have been held as in previous years.

6. Hospitals.

No change in the hospitals serving this area has occurred since the last report.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water.

Though the population of the Borough has been largely increased by the influx of evacuee families and children and refugees from bombed areas both the quantity and quality of the water supplied has been consistently good.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

The satisfactory report on the water supplied to the Borough applies to the sewerage work also.

As reported by your medical Officer in 1936, 1937 and 1938 the present disposal system of sewerage is unsatisfactory and the scheme for reconditioning the works is still in abeyance. As soon as the war conditions allow it is very necessary that this be done. It can, however, be said that the condition of the works is tolerable due partly to the chlorinating plant which has been installed and to the care exercised in alternating the flow of sewerage over the land so as to use every portion of it as fully as possible. This land has again been used in cultivation and has raised a crop of mangolds. No complaints have been received recently of any nuisance arising from this land.

3. Rivers and Streams.

No complaints were received during the years 1939 and 1940.

4. Public Mortuary.

The Public Mortuary has again been of service to the Borough and Rural District.

5. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The bathing place in the river was again well patronised but there was no possible scheme by which the purity of the water could be ensured.

6. Schools.

The old Church School which had been closed was re-opened for the accommodation of the L.C.C. Marylebone School.

7. Factories.

Four factories have been admitted into the Borough, having removed from dangerous areas elsewhere. The Paint Factory in Nelson Street causes unpleasant smells in a thickly populated part of the town. It is a pity that such a factory was allowed to occupy so central a site. On the other hand this factory is offering useful, well-paid employment to a number of young people and is performing national service.

D. HOUSING.

The Westfields Housing Estate of sixty-two houses was completed during 1939.

The inspection of reconditioned houses for the accommodation of refugees was carried out.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Visits have been made to the Farms supplying milk to the town.

are

There/thirty-one Registered Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

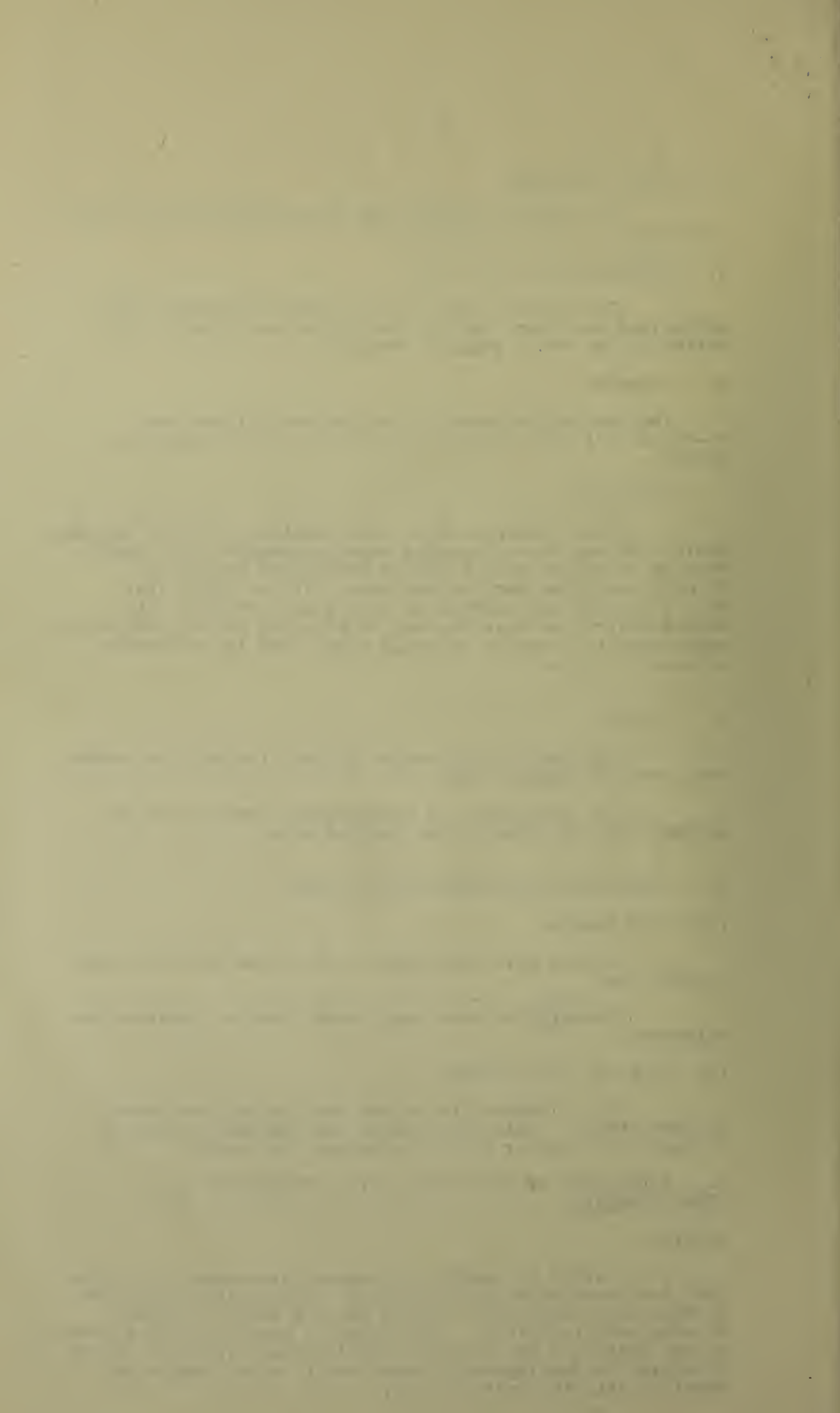
(b) Meat and other Foods.

All slaughtering is now done at the Government Slaughterhouse. This has enabled the Sanitary Inspector to carry out regular visits to inspect the meat.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

General.

During the months of August, September and October 1940 269 cases of measles occurred. This epidemic appears to have been started by a child who was taken to Banbury to stay with relations. While there a case of measles occurred in the house but the visiting child was not isolated and on returning to Buckingham she was sent to school where she remained till the rash was out.



Twenty cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during 1940, the majority in the summer. The cases were mild ones and all did well. Fortunately the small epidemic was soon over though the action taken by the Postal Authorities in allowing a contact to continue working at the local Post Office counter might have been inimical to the health of the Borough.

The individual action of ^{the Post Office} ~~this service~~ in allowing contacts to remain on duty in public places makes it difficult to persuade other contacts employed in shops and hotels to remain in quarantine, especially when the absence entailed may mean loss of pay.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1939 and 1940				
Disease	1939		1940	
	Noti- fied	Admitted to hosn:	Noti- fied	
Diphtheria	-	-	1	1
Scarlet Fever	7	7	20	18
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	2	-
Measles	-	-	299	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	1	-

R. Y. STONES,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

100

THE STATE OF NEW YORK
IN SENATE
January 10, 1890.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE
IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION
PASSED BY THE SENATE
MAY 1, 1889.

ALBANY:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO. PRINTERS.
1890.

ALBANY:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO. PRINTERS.
1890.

ALBANY:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO. PRINTERS.
1890.